Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL LOME 2409

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT PEPR TO

SUBJ: BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON NEW TOGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE FOLLOWING IS AN EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF THE OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY OF TOGO'S NEW FOREIGN MINISTER ANANI AKAKPO-AHIANYO.

QUOTE THE PERSON WHO THE CHIEF OF STATE HAS JUST PLACED AT THE HEAD OF TOGOLESE FOREIGN POLICY WAS BORN DECEMBER 12, 1937 AT AWLI-MIVAKPO IN THE CIRCUMSCRIPTION OF TSEVIE.

AFTER PRIMARY SCHOOLING AT TSEVIE, PYA, LOME AND ATAKPAME, HE TOOK HIS SECONDARY STUDIES AT THE LYCEE OF LOME AND RECEIVED A BACCALAUREAT WITH A SPECIALTY IN EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES. MR AKAKPO-AHIANYO THEN WENT TO FRANCE FOR HIGHER STUDY IN 1957. RETURNING TO TOGO IN 1968, HE BECAME A RESEARCHER AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND IN 1970 HE BECAME ITS DIRECTOR GENERAL.

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8, ADDITION TO THESE DUTIES, MR AKAKPO-AHIANYO BECAME IN 1975 THE DIRECTEUR DE CABINET AT THE MINISTRY OF RURAL EQUIPMENT. SEVERAL MONTHS LATER IN THE SAME YEAR, HE WAS NAMED AMBASSADOR OF TOGO TO THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND TO THE PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF KOREA, A POST WHICH HE HAD OCCUPIED UNTIL THE PRESENT. FROM 1972-75 HE ALSO GAVE COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BENIN.

PARTY LOYALIST FROM THE FIRST HOUR, THE NEW MINISTER OF N

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION BECAME A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE RPT AFTER THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONGRESS OF 1969 AND WAS REELECTED AT THE FIRST STATUTORY CONGRESS AT PALIME IN 1972. SINCE 1975 HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE MINICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOME. DOCTOR OF SOCIOLOGY AND MASTER OF LITERATURE, MR AKAKPO-AHIANYO, WHO IS AN EXPERT IN AGRICULTURE AND LAND TENURE, HAS ALSO A DECREE FROM THE INSTITUTE OF HIGHER STUDIES OR RURAL LAW AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY. HE IS MARRAIED AND A FATHER. ENF QUOTE END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. MR AKAKPO-AHIANYO IS A TYPICAL PRMDUCT OF FRENCH LEFTIST STUDENT CIRCLES. A BOOK OF HIS POEMS PUBLISHED IN 1975 CONTAINS SLECTIONS GOING BACK TO 1958. THE TONE IS FIERCELY NATIONALIST AND VEHEMENTLY ANTI-IMPERIALIST. IN A POEM FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1967 IN THE MAGAZINE OF THE LEFTIST FEDERATION OF BLACK AFRICAN STUDENTS IN FRANCE (FEANF), HE SUMMONS THE "YOUNG PROGRESSIVE INTELLECTUALS" TO COMBAT AGAINST THEIR "IMPERIALIST CAPTORS." IN 1974 HE VISITED NORTH KOREA IN PRESIDENT EYADEMA'S ENTOURAGE. THIS VISIT PRODUCED A HYMN TO KIM IL SUNG AND AN ODE OF SOLIDARITY TO THE (NORTH) KOREAN PEOPLE. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. IN THE FALL OF 1973 MR AKAKPO-AHIANYO VISITED THE UNITED STATES IN HIS CAPACITY OF DIRECTOR GENECAL OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WAS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH US UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS. IT WAS SUCCESSFUL IN PRODUCING SOME AGREEMENTS FOR COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THE INSTITUTE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA. MR AKAKPO-AHIANYO EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS TO FACILITATE HIS VISIT.

4. OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT HE SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH AND SPANISH. IN 1973 HE HAD THREE CHILDREN. PRIOR TO 1973, IN ADDITION TO STUDIES IN FRANCE, HE HAD VISITED THE UNITED KINGDOM, WEST GERMANY AND ITALY AS A TOURISTBM YOUNG

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